

IN MEMORY OF EDWARD "SCOTT"  
HOOD

### HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2009

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, this week, we in the House lost one of our own. It is with great sadness and a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the memory of Edward "Scott" Hood and his years of exemplary service to the Members and staff of the House of Representatives.

Scott Hood lived in Point of Rocks, Maryland with his wife, Karen, and sons, Zachary and Luke. He served the House of Representatives with distinction and excellence for almost twenty-three years, beginning his Congressional career in the House Cabinet Shop. Scott worked in that shop for eleven years, where he learned and honed his skills in the woodworking trade. "Scotty" was a valued craftsman and a remarkable talent, with many of his pieces still in use throughout the Capitol complex. The highlight of Scott's portfolio was a sideboard which he made for then Speaker of the House, the Honorable Newt Gingrich, in August of 1996. It can still be viewed in room H-230 of the Capitol.

When the position of Office Coordinator was created in the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) in 2002, Scott saw this as an opportunity to enhance his career path by applying his knowledge of cabinetry to advise his customers on furniture choices and selections. He continued to build and cultivate relationships with offices over the next few years, ultimately working his way up to Supervisor of the CAO Capitol Service Center in 2004. In addition to his supervisory duties, he was assigned to the responsibility of coordinating and responding to the furniture and equipment needs of the Leadership offices, as well as representing the CAO organization in the logistical coordination of high-profile events in the Capitol Building. In 2007, he was awarded the Darrell Norman Excellence Award—the highest recognition of service bestowed on an employee of the Chief Administrative Officer. The summation of his recognition then is a fitting testament to his entire career with the House. "Scott Hood inspires and motivates his staff to deliver quality services and solutions to the furniture and equipment problems of the offices located in the Capitol. Scott has also been a keen contributor to our efforts to enhance customer satisfaction and to work across the organization and with a variety of service partners to deliver solutions that exceed the expectations and needs of their customers. He has been particularly effective in bringing his change management and leadership skills to bear in developing an effective partnership with the Architect of the Capitol to deliver seamless solutions to House Leadership Offices."

Scott was able to use his inherent honesty and integrity to build trusting relationships and to be a valued advisor to both his offices and staff at all levels. Scott not only embraced and lived the CAO mission, vision, values, and brand, but inspired and motivated his staff and other organizations to do the same. Admired by the people who knew him and appreciated

by those he served, Scott was an exceptional role model. His colleagues tell us that they will miss his shy smile and the "will do" spirit and positive attitude that he brought to work each day. When asked to describe him, the most common phrase mentioned was, "He was 'The Rock' that we relied on."

Besides his loving wife and sons, Scott is survived by his parents, Darlene G. and Edward Hood, of Germantown, MD. He was the son-in law of Edith Jenkins, the loving grandson of Otis and Margaret Smith, and the brother of Kevin Hood and his wife Zaida, all of Germantown, MD.

It is a privilege to pay respects to a man who lived the spirit of unconditional and unwavering service to this great institution. On behalf of the entire House community, we extend our condolences to Scott's family, friends and colleagues in mourning the loss of this truly special public servant. I am honored to stand before the House and to commend him for his service to the Congress and our Nation.

### HONORING FAMILIES OF FALLEN SOLDIERS

### HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2009

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor all the families who have lost a loved one in defense of our great Nation and in particular, those gathered at Calvary Baptist Church in Lakeland, Florida. For over 225 years, the United States has been a beacon of hope and freedom throughout the world. That freedom comes at a price, however. Whether it is the original fight for independence during the American Revolution, the drive to defeat communism during the cold war, or the current battle in the Middle East, soldiers throughout our history have fought and given their lives to keep us safe here at home. I salute their sacrifice, the sacrifice of their families, and dedication to their fellow man.

Our Nation has often had to defend itself from enemies, both foreign and domestic. Throughout these struggles, it has been our shared faith in our Lord that has given us the strength to soldier on during tough and trying times. America has seen both the good and the bad throughout our Nation's history, but in the end I firmly believe that each of us will heed the call to show our commitment to God when forced to make decisions that affect our fellow man.

To those who will gather at Calvary Baptist Church to honor our "True American Heroes," know this Congress thanks you and honors you. As Ronnie and Aileen Payne wrote to me, "Our sons and daughters were more than just a name and a casualty number. They were the best that America had to offer. They ran in when others ran out. They answered when America called."

America is the greatest Nation in the world. We have a proud history of service, faith and community ties that bind us to the common belief in the goodness of mankind. Our collec-

tive faith in God surpasses the fear and uncertainty we may feel from time to time. By working and praying together we can ensure that future generations of Americans will share the morals and values that brought us here today. Thank you and God bless the United States of America.

"HOPE BLOOMS" FOUNDERS  
WAYNE AND SHANNON MARKLOWITZ OF CLEAR LAKE, MN

### HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2009

Mr. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor two truly amazing individuals, Wayne and Shannon Marklowitz of Clear Lake, as they begin to create a foster care community, "Hope Blooms", in Becker, Minnesota. Wayne and Shannon are working hard to provide a safe, welcoming environment for some of the 650 Minnesota children between the ages of 0 and 18 who are waiting to be placed with a foster home. And, they also hope to provide a close support network for the families that want to provide the love and care these children so desperately need.

It is not often we see such dedication toward such a selfless goal, particularly amidst these troubling times when people honestly turn their focus inward. Wayne works as a fire fighter and Shannon is studying to become a counselor, so there are plenty of very legitimate excuses to hold off on this endeavor. But the inspiration of a similar program in Texas, the prayers of their family, the support of their community and their unconditional faith have moved this project closer to fruition with each day. In fact, Wayne and Shannon received their not-for-profit status from the federal government in just one month, even though they had been told the process takes a year. Even government appears to have been inspired by their dreams.

After fostering 23 children with my family, I know the personal joy a foster child can bring to a home. I am so grateful to for that gift that I received as a foster parent, and I am equally grateful to the Marklowitz' for helping other families experience that same joy. Shannon and Wayne are taking on this endeavor as a leap of faith, as they acknowledge, answering the call from Christ's apostle James, who asked true believers "to look after the orphans and widows in distress."

I rise to honor this amazing young couple for their faith and work to meet such important goals. The month of May has been designated as "National Foster Care Month" and I encourage all Americans to look into foster care options and to support the families that have foster children. The future of our country rests firmly on the shoulders of our children and the hundreds of thousands of children in foster care are an important part in carrying on the principles of freedom and community on which America was founded. I look forward to seeing the success and joy Hope Blooms brings to foster families and children in and around Becker. May God continue to bless the homes that have opened their doors to the children in need.